



1/18/06

## MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

### **SB 624 (Toy)**

SB 624 would amend the Michigan Memorial Highway Act to designate US-24 in Wayne County the "10th Mountain Division Memorial Highway".

- The Senate concurred with the House changes to SB 624 with IE [RC 1: 37 yes, 0 no].

## THIRD READING

### **SB 472 (Kuipers)**

### **SB 475 (Hardiman)**

### **SB 476 (Sanborn)**

The bills would amend various statutes to eliminate certain commissions, committees, boards, and panels that were established to assist, evaluate, or oversee. These commission are no longer used and are being removed.

SB 472 would amend the Michigan Superconducting Super Collider Act to require that all powers and duties granted to the Michigan superconducting super collider commission under the Act be performed by the Department of Labor and Economic Growth. Currently, the Act states that, effective July 1, 1991, the powers and duties of the commission must be transferred to and performed by the Department of Commerce and that the commission must be dissolved.

- SB 472 was moved to 3<sup>rd</sup> reading of Bills.

SB 475 would amend Public Act 175 of 1982, which created the State Research Fund, to delete provisions pertaining to the formation and function of a feasibility review panel. The Act provides that within 60 days after receiving a proposal for a grant from the Fund, a feasibility review panel must review the feasibility of the proposal and advise the Department of Labor and Economic Growth (DLEG) as to whether the proposal complies with the funding criteria, and

recommend the amount and priority of the grant to the DLEG Director. Under the bill, the Director of DLEG would have to determine the amount and priority of the grant.

- SB 475 was moved to 3<sup>rd</sup> reading of Bills.

SB 476 would amend the Michigan Strategic Fund Act to delete a requirement that the Fund appoint an advisory committee containing individuals with the necessary academic or professional credentials or capacity to assist in determining the selection of present and emerging technology and for the purpose of evaluating applicants for financial aid.

- SB 476 was moved to 3<sup>rd</sup> reading of Bills.

#### **HB 5039 (Casperson)**

HB 5039 would allow a physician licensed in another state that borders the county to serve as medical examiner in a county that does not have an accredited hospital. The recent retirement of the Menominee County medical examiner presents a problem for the sparsely populated Upper Peninsula county located on the Wisconsin border, because it has no hospital and few doctors licensed to practice in Michigan. Apparently, most residents receive medical care from providers in Wisconsin. The county could join with a neighboring county to appoint joint medical examiner, but the distance between communities in the adjoining counties would make such an arrangement impractical. The bill would allow the county to appoint as medical examiner a doctor who practices in Wisconsin.

- HB 5039 was moved to 3<sup>rd</sup> reading of Bills.

#### **HB 5281 (Gaffney)**

HB 5281 would amend the Drain Code to provide that, if a drain project involved a county with a population over 1 million, the drainage board would have to include an individual appointed by each participating county's drain commissioner. (The requirement would apply only to an intercounty drain project involving Wayne County.) As required by the Drain Code, the board of the Milk River Intercounty Drain consists of the Director of the Department of Agriculture and the drain commissioner of each county involved in the project. Apparently, some Wayne County homeowners pay more than \$600 annually in assessments for the drain and do not believe that the drainage board is responsive to their concerns about the size of the assessments because their drain commissioner is appointed, not elected. The board of an intercounty drainage project including Wayne County would be more accountable to the property owners affected by the project if a locally elected representative from each county involved were added to the board.

- Toy 1 was adopted [no RC].
- HB 5281 was moved to 3<sup>rd</sup> reading of Bills.